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Claus Schendell-Gröling

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A mounting aid for positioning an orthodontic bracket to a tooth, ~~said mounting aid comprising a sheet strip and a resilient tensioning device to secure the sheet strip, the tensioning device being attachable with respect to the bracket, and a sheet strip, the sheet strip having a holding member extending from an outer surface of the sheet strip for firmly holding the tensioning device to the sheet strip, an abutment portion extending forward a length from the holding member for positively engaging the bracket and having outer and inner surfaces substantially equally spaced apart along the length, a holding portion for fastening the tensioning device to the sheet strip whereby to secure the sheet strip to the bracket; and a lug extending rearward a length away from the holding portion member and having outer and inner surfaces equally spaced apart along the length.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 1 wherein the bracket has a frame and the abutment portion has ~~a front~~ ~~an~~ edge ~~extending between the outer and inner surfaces~~ and a tongue ~~extending from the edge~~, the edge being adapted to ~~be received within an undercut beneath the frame~~ engage the frame from below the frame and the tongue being adapted to engage the frame from above the frame ~~and to extend through a gap defined by the frame~~.

3. (Original) The mounting aid of claim 2 wherein the resilient tensioning device is an elastomeric O-ring.

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7. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 22 [[6]] wherein the anchoring member has an end that forms a hook.

8. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 22 [[6]] wherein the anchoring member is adapted to firmly hold the tensioning device.

9. (Original) The mounting aid of claim 8 wherein the tensioning device is an elastomeric O-ring.

10. (Original) The mounting aid of claim 1 wherein the lug includes a plurality of projections.

11. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 1 wherein the lug includes a narrow proximal portion having side edges and a widened distal end extending orthogonally outward from the side edges.

12. (Currently Amended) A mounting aid for mounting an orthodontic bracket to a tooth comprising a sheet strip and a resilient tensioning means member adapted to secure the sheet strip to the bracket, the sheet strip including having an abutment member means for adapted to positively engage engaging the bracket, a holding member adapted to firmly hold means for fastening the tensioning means to the sheet strip, and a lug extending away from the holding member means.

13. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 12 wherein the bracket has a frame and the abutment member means comprises an edge and a tongue, the edge being adapted to engage the frame from below the frame and the tongue being adapted to engage the frame from above the frame.

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14 - 19. Cancelled

20. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 12 wherein the lug has a plurality of projections and a widened end, the end having a hole.

21. (New) A mounting aid for positioning an orthodontic bracket to a tooth comprising a spring attachable with respect to the bracket and a sheet strip having an abutment portion for positively engaging the bracket, a holding portion for fastening the spring to the sheet strip such that the spring secures the sheet strip to the bracket, and a lug extending away from the holding portion, wherein the abutment portion has an edge adapted to engage a frame of the bracket from below the frame and a tongue adapted to engage the frame from above the frame.

22. (New) A mounting aid for positioning an orthodontic bracket to a tooth comprising a resilient tensioning device attachable with respect to the bracket, a sheet strip having an abutment portion for positively engaging the bracket, a holding portion for fastening the tensioning device to the sheet strip such that the tensioning device secures the sheet strip to the bracket, and a lug extending away from the holding portion, and an anchoring member adapted to attach to the bracket such that the anchoring member secures the tensioning device to the bracket.